UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

LOGAN ALEXANDER SPREWELL,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No. 24-cv-1541-pp

SGT. ZIMMERIEE, et al.,

Defendants.

ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED WITHOUT PREPAYING FILING FEE (DKT. NO. 3) AND SCREENING COMPLAINT UNDER 28 U.S.C. §1915A

Plaintiff Logan Alexander Sprewell, who was incarcerated at Milwaukee County Community Reintegration Center when he filed his complaint and is representing himself, filed this lawsuit under 42 U.S.C. §1983, alleging that the defendants violated his constitutional rights. This decision resolves the plaintiff's motion for leave to proceed without prepaying the filing fee, dkt. no. 3, and screens his complaint, dkt. no. 1.

I. Motion for Leave to Proceed without Prepaying the Filing Fee (Dkt. No. 3)

The Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA) applies to this case because the plaintiff was incarcerated when he filed his complaint. See 28 U.S.C. §1915(h). The PLRA lets the court allow an incarcerated plaintiff to proceed with his case without prepaying the civil case filing fee. 28 U.S.C. §1915(a)(2). When funds exist, the plaintiff must pay an initial partial filing fee. 28 U.S.C. §1915(b)(1). He then must pay the balance of the \$350 filing fee over time, through deductions from his prisoner account. Id.

On January 9, 2025, the court ordered the plaintiff to pay an initial partial filing fee of \$98.50. Dkt. No. 7. The court received \$100 on January 24, 2025. The court will grant the plaintiff's motion for leave to proceed without prepaying the filing fee and will require him to pay remainder of the filing fee over time in the manner explained at the end of this order.

II. Screening the Complaint

A. <u>Federal Screening Standard</u>

Under the PLRA, the court must screen complaints brought by incarcerated persons seeking relief from a governmental entity or officer or employee of a governmental entity. 28 U.S.C. §1915A(a). The court must dismiss a complaint if the incarcerated plaintiff raises claims that are legally "frivolous or malicious," that fail to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, or that seek monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. 28 U.S.C. §1915A(b).

In determining whether the complaint states a claim, the court applies the same standard that it applies when considering whether to dismiss a case under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6). See Cesal v. Moats, 851 F.3d 714, 720 (7th Cir. 2017) (citing Booker-El v. Superintendent, Ind. State Prison, 668 F.3d 896, 899 (7th Cir. 2012)). To state a claim, a complaint must include "a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief." Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a)(2). The complaint must contain enough facts, accepted as true, to "state a claim for relief that is plausible on its face." Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009) (quoting Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly, 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007)). "A claim has facial plausibility when the plaintiff pleads factual content that allows a court to draw the reasonable

inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged." <u>Id.</u> (citing Twombly, 550 U.S. at 556).

To state a claim for relief under 42 U.S.C. §1983, a plaintiff must allege that someone deprived him of a right secured by the Constitution or the laws of the United States, and that whoever deprived him of this right was acting under the color of state law. <u>D.S. v. E. Porter Cnty. Sch. Corp.</u>, 799 F.3d 793, 798 (7th Cir. 2015) (citing <u>Buchanan–Moore v. County of Milwaukee</u>, 570 F.3d 824, 827 (7th Cir. 2009)). The court construes liberally complaints filed by plaintiffs who are representing themselves and holds such complaints to a less stringent standard than pleadings drafted by lawyers. <u>Cesal</u>, 851 F.3d at 720 (citing <u>Perez v. Fenoglio</u>, 792 F.3d 768, 776 (7th Cir. 2015)).

B. The Plaintiff's Allegations

The plaintiff sues Chantell Jewell, superintendent of the Milwaukee County Community Reintegration Center; Sergeant Zimmeriee, a correctional officer at the center; and Nurse Jolean, a registered nurse who works at the center. Dtk. No. 1 at ¶¶4-7. The plaintiff alleges that at 9:00 a.m. on November 20, 2024, he told an officer that he was having a medical emergency and needed medical attention. Id. at ¶9. He says that he could tell that he was going to have a seizure. Id. The officer allegedly returned about ten minutes later and told the plaintiff that the nurse said he should lay on the floor until the nurse could get there. Id. The plaintiff states that he laid on the floor and about five minutes later, defendants Jolean and Zimmeriee arrived and offered him Tylenol or Ibuprofen. Id. The plaintiff alleges that he refused because those medications do not treat his disorder. Id. Jolean and Zimmeriee allegedly moved on and left the plaintiff in his cell. Id. He states that about ten minutes later, they checked on him and then walked off. Id. The plaintiff allegedly felt

concerned for his health and says that when he stood up to call to another incarcerated individual, he had a seizure. <u>Id.</u> He says he hit his head on the bed and fell to the floor and another incarcerated person yelled for help. <u>Id.</u> The response team allegedly arrived at 10:15 a.m. <u>Id.</u>

The plaintiff seeks declaratory relief and monetary damages. <u>Id.</u> at \P ¶13-15.

C. Analysis

The court assumes that the plaintiff was a pretrial detainee when he filed his complaint because he then was confined at Milwaukee County Community Reintegration Center. A §1983 claim that a state pretrial detainee has received inadequate medical care is predicated on the rights secured by the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause. <u>James v. Hale</u>, 959 F.3d 307, 318 (7th Cir. 2020) (citing <u>Miranda v. County of Lake</u>, 900 F.3d 335, 346-47 (7th Cir. 2018)). Claims of inadequate medical care while in pretrial detention are subject to an objective reasonableness standard. <u>Id.</u> (citing <u>Miranda</u>, 900 F.3d at 352). The plaintiff bears the burden to demonstrate objective unreasonableness, and he must make a two-part showing. <u>Id.</u> First, he must show that the defendants acted purposefully, knowingly or recklessly when considering the consequences of their response to the medical condition at issue in the case. <u>Id.</u> (citing <u>McCann v. Ogle County, Ill.</u>, 909 F.3d 881, 886 (7th Cir. 2018)). Second, the plaintiff must show that the challenged conduct was objectively unreasonable given the totality of the relevant facts and circumstances. <u>Id.</u>

The plaintiff may proceed on a medical care claim against Zimmeriee and Jolean based on allegations that they did not provide him with adequate medical care for his seizure disorder. He cannot, however, proceed against Superintendent Jewell, because he does not allege that she had any personal

involvement in the events described in the complaint. <u>See Rasho v. Elyea</u>, 856 F.3d 469, 478 (7th Cir. 2017); <u>Hildebrandt v. Ill. Dep't of Nat. Res.</u>, 347 F.3d 1014, 1039 (7th Cir. 2003) (supervisors not liable under §1983 unless they know about the conduct and facilitate it, approve it, condone it or turn a blind eye). The court will dismiss Jewell as a defendant.

III. Conclusion

The court **GRANTS** the plaintiff's motion for leave to proceed without prepaying the filing fee. Dkt. No. 3.

The court **DISMISSES** defendant Chantell Jewell.

Under an informal service agreement between Milwaukee County and this court, the court will electronically transmit a copy of the complaint and this order to Milwaukee County for service on defendants Sgt. Zimmeriee and Nurse Jolean. Under the informal service agreement, the court **ORDERS** those defendants to file a responsive pleading to the complaint within sixty (60) days.

The court **ORDERS** that the agency that has custody of the plaintiff must collect from his institution trust account the **\$47.50** balance of the filing fee by collecting monthly payments from the plaintiff's prison trust account in an amount equal to 20% of the preceding month's income credited to the plaintiff's trust account and forwarding payments to the Clerk of Court each time the amount in the account exceeds \$10 in accordance with 28 U.S.C. §1915(b)(2). The agency must clearly identify the payments by the case name and number. If the plaintiff transfers to another county, state or federal institution, the transferring institution must forward a copy of this order, along with the plaintiff's remaining balance, to the receiving institution.

The court will send a copy of this order to the Warden at Dodge Correctional Institution, where the plaintiff is now confined. The court **ORDERS** that the parties must not begin discovery until after the court enters a scheduling order setting deadlines for completing discovery and filing dispositive motions.

The court **ORDERS** that plaintiffs who are incarcerated at Prisoner E-Filing Program institutions¹ must submit all correspondence and case filings to institution staff, who will scan and e-mail documents to the court. Plaintiffs who are incarcerated at all other prison facilities must submit the original document for each filing to the court to the following address:

Office of the Clerk United States District Court Eastern District of Wisconsin 362 United States Courthouse 517 E. Wisconsin Avenue Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

DO NOT MAIL ANYTHING DIRECTLY TO THE JUDGE'S CHAMBERS. It will only delay the processing of the case.

The court advises the plaintiff that if he fails to file documents or take other required actions by the deadlines the court sets, the court may dismiss the case based on his failure to diligently pursue it. The parties must notify the Clerk of Court of any change of address. The court advises the plaintiff that it is his responsibility to promptly notify the court if he is released from custody or transferred to a different institution. The plaintiff's failure to keep the court advised of his address may result in the court dismissing this case without further notice.

¹ The Prisoner E-Filing Program is mandatory for all individuals incarcerated at Green Bay Correctional Institution, Waupun Correctional Institution, Dodge Correctional Institution, Wisconsin Secure Program Facility, Columbia Correctional Institution, and Oshkosh Correctional Institution.

The court will include a guide prepared by court staff to address common questions that arise in cases filed by prisoners. Entitled "Answers to Prisoner Litigants' Common Questions," this guide contains information that the plaintiff may find useful in prosecuting his case.

Dated in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this 16th day of May, 2025.

BY THE COURT:

HON. PAMELA PEPPER

Chief United States District Judge